Supporting postgraduate students in the Social Sciences

Department of Sociology at the University of Oxford

Sociology at Oxford is renowned for its focus on rigorous empirical research. Faculty in this growing department develop and test theories that engage with real world problems.

Oxford has a long and distinguished tradition of sociological research in studying social inequality, social mobility, and political sociology. Over the last decade, the department has expanded its substantive expertise to include demography, socio-genetics, and crime and governance.

The international reputation of Oxford Sociology is widely recognised. Sociology is currently ranked third in the world (and first in UK & Europe) according to QS Rankings by Subject 2018.

The department hosts several research groups and large projects that are at the forefront of sociological research in the world. Oxford sociologists develop and apply new research methods, taking full advantage of the data revolution, to better answer old questions and to investigate completely new ones.

Degrees

- MSc in Sociology (1 year)
- MPhil in Sociology and Demography (2 years)
- DPhil in Sociology (3 years)

Departmental Highlights

- As well as undertaking cutting-edge research, the Department carries out the full range of postgraduate teaching and research, provides teaching and support for undergraduate courses administered by other departments, and has about 50 staff and around 100 graduate students and academic visitors.
- The Department currently has two research centres; Centre for Time Use Research and Extra-legal Governance Institute

Student application and admissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data year</th>
<th>Degree course</th>
<th>Subject/Dept</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Offers</th>
<th>Admitted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>MSc &amp; MPhil</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>DPhil</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
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Investing in tomorrow’s leaders

We are looking for supporters who share Oxford University’s mission, and wish to play their part in addressing the problems of the 21st century through investing in the next generation of thinkers and doers. Single and multi-year scholarships would profoundly change the opportunities and futures of many talented people. Endowed scholarships will secure that impact in perpetuity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>2019-2020 per degree cost</th>
<th>Example multi-year scholarship</th>
<th>Endowment per student</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>£33,409 (Home) / £42,624 (Overseas)</td>
<td>£127,871 (3 MSc students)</td>
<td>£1,065,591</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPhil</td>
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<td>DPhil</td>
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<td>£240,808 (2 DPhil students)</td>
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www.sociology.ox.ac.uk
Alumni profiles

Fei Yan, DPhil in Sociology

“Oxford Sociology is one of the best sociology programs in the world. It helped me build a very strong and solid academic foundation and prepared me effectively for an academic career at a research university. The renowned faculties are the core asset. I am extremely proud to work with my supervisor and many other distinguished professors in the last four years. Their wisdom, knowledge, and commitment to the highest standards inspired and motivated me to become a true scholar.”

Funda Ustek-Spilda, DPhil in Sociology

“Research excellency and academic rigour are the two most important skills I have taken on from my postgraduate studies at Oxford. With extensive research interests of the academic staff and collaboration opportunities, Oxford has prepared me for the next stages of my academic career.”

Luka Boeskens, MSc in Sociology

“After completing my MSc at the Department of Sociology in 2015, I joined the OECD’s Directorate for Education and Skills as a Carlo Schmid Fellow to conduct research on the effective and equitable use of resources in education systems. Following the fellowship, I will continue working for the OECD School Resources Review as a consultant. The MSc has been a very stimulating experience to learn from and work alongside so many of the department’s excellent students and faculty members. The MSc’s in-depth training in empirical research methods and research design has provided me with a strong foundation for my work at the OECD and for pursuing further academic research.”

Mark Williams, MSc in Sociology and DPhil in Sociology

“The Department of Sociology at Oxford provides a solid quantitative training coupled with exposure to a trademark tradition of doing sociology. What sets Oxford apart its vibrant intellectual environment: from the endless streams of interesting research seminars (more often than not from top scholars in whatever field you do) to the general buzz of daily college life. Studying in the Department and at Nuffield has left a very big intellectual impression on me which only seems to strengthen as I progress in my career. In fact, many of my subsequent collaborators also did their DPhil in the Department.”

Samir Sinha, DPhil in Sociology

“As a physician interested in health policy and gerontology, the Department of Sociology became the perfect environment to broaden my thinking and understanding of health and health care with a sociological lens. I owe much of my success in my clinical, leadership, policy and research roles post Oxford from the knowledge and skills I acquired in learning how to look at important issues from a variety of important perspectives.”

Sumeet Mhaskar, DPhil in Sociology

“The Department of Sociology at Oxford, with its rigorous training and infrastructure, is an ideal place to carry out multi-method research. During my DPhil, I gained enormously from the intellectually stimulating environment in the university.”

Timothy Phakathi, DPhil in Sociology

“The Oxford Department of Sociology has provided me with a conducive learning environment that has significantly accelerated my career development in the world of work.”

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